

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND LABOR

Call to Order: By Vice-Chairman Mike Milburn, on February 21, 2007 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 172 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Scott Mendenhall, Chairman (R)
Rep. Jim Keane, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Mike Milburn, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Elsie Arntzen (R)
Rep. Shannon Augare (D)
Rep. Scott Boggio (R)
Rep. Ernie Dutton (R)
Rep. Kevin T. Furey (D)
Rep. Ralph Heinert (R)
Rep. Llew Jones (R)
Rep. Harry Klock (R)
Rep. Michele Reinhart (D)
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)
Rep. Bill Thomas (D)
Rep. Kendall Van Dyk (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Bart Campbell, Legislative Branch
Nancy Kraft, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 730, 2/19/2007; HB 738,
2/19/2007; HB 764, 2/19/2007
Executive Action: HB 668; HB 587

HEARING ON HB 738

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:55 Rep. Scott Mendenhall (R), HD 77, opened the hearing on HB 738, Revise work comp law for claim closure and medical services rates.

Informational Testimony:

00:10:29 Jerry Keck, Department of Labor and Industry
[EXHIBIT\(buh39a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:18:07 Jon Bennion, Montana Chamber of Commerce
00:21:36 Mark Burzynski, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana
[EXHIBIT\(buh39a02\)](#)
00:24:21 Jim Ahrens, Montana Hospital Association
00:24:49 Angela Huschka, New West Health Services
00:25:33 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business
00:26:20 Shawn Bubb, Montana School Group Authority
00:26:58 George Wood, Montana Self-Insurers' Association
00:27:24 Jason Todhunter, Montana Logging Association; Spook Stang, Montana Motor Carriers' Association
00:28:26 Bob Worthington, Montana Municipal Insurance Authority
00:29:03 Nancy Butler, Montana State Fund
00:30:22 Jacqueline Lenmark, American Insurance Association; and for John Metropoulos, Farm Insurance Association
00:31:40 Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties
00:32:54 Doug Nulle
00:33:17 Carl Schweitzer, Bozeman and Kalispell Chambers of Commerce
00:33:50 Bruce Spencer, Montana Automobile Dealers' Association
00:34:15 Margaret Morgan, Greater Montana Independent Contractors
00:34:46 Larry Jones, Liberty Northwest
00:35:06 Larry Kibbee, Property Casualty Insurance Association of America
00:35:54 Cary Hegreberg, Montana Contractors' Association
00:37:00 Shawn Thatcher, Montana Building Industry Association

Opponents' Testimony:

00:37:43 Don Judge, Montana Injured Workers Resource Council and Local Teamsters' 190
00:45:32 Jason Miller, Montana State AFL-CIO

00:47:31 Andrea Olsen, Montana Trial Lawyers' Association
00:50:18 Rick Pyfer, Attorney, Helena, Montana

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:54:23 Rep. Stahl
00:55:17 Ms. Olsen
00:56:03 Rep. Stahl
00:56:14 Mr. Keck
01:00:46 Rep. Stahl
01:01:12 Rep. Mendenhall
01:01:48 Rep. Van Dyk
01:02:40 Mr. Keck
01:05:59 Rep. Van Dyk
01:06:28 Rep. Mendenhall
01:07:50 Rep. Furey
01:11:04 Mr. Burzynski
01:11:37 Rep. Jones
01:13:01 Mr. Burzynski
01:15:13 Rep. Keane
01:17:07 Ms. Butler

Closing by Sponsor:

01:17:56 Rep. Mendenhall
01:24:21 Rep. Mendenhall resumed the Chair.

HEARING ON HB 764

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:25:40 Rep. Mike Milburn (R), HD 19, opened the hearing on HB 764, Authorize insurance commissioner to adopt rules protecting military personnel.

[EXHIBIT \(buh39a03\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:30:40 Jacqueline Lenmark, American Insurance Association and American Council of Life Insurers
01:38:21 Rep. Dave Gallik, House District 79
01:40:57 Greg VanHorssen, State Farm Insurance Company
01:46:17 John Metropoulos, Farmers' Insurance Group
01:49:51 Frank Cote, America's Health Insurance Plans
01:51:43 Don Allen, National Association of Insurance Commissioners

Opponents' Testimony:

01:54:54 Gordon Higgins, State Auditor's Office

EXHIBIT (buh39a04)

02:00:03 John Tarr, Retired Military for State Auditor's Office

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:03:47 Rep. Furey

02:04:07 Rep. Milburn

02:04:55 Rep. Furey

02:09:33 Ms. Lenmark

02:11:42 Rep. Keane

02:12:26 Mr. Cote

02:14:18 Rep. Thomas

02:14:50 Mr. Tarr

02:17:14 Rep. Dutton

02:17:27 Rep. Milburn

02:18:10 Rep. Mendenhall

02:19:00 Mr. Higgins

Closing by Sponsor:

02:20:02 Rep. Milburn

02:20:26 Break

HEARING ON HB 730

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:45:53 Rep. Ralph Heinert (R), HD 1, opened the hearing on HB 730, Require plumbing inspection for new homes.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:48:54 Carl Schweitzer, Associated Plumbing and Heating Contractors of Montana

Opponents' Testimony:

02:52:25 Harold Blattie

Informational Testimony:

02:57:33 Jack Kane, Department of Labor and Industry

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:57:52 Rep. Keane

02:58:08 Mr. Kane

EXHIBIT (buh39a05)

03:00:32 Rep. Dutton

03:00:57 Rep. Heinert

03:01:50 Rep. Stahl

03:02:36 Rep. Heinert

03:03:09 Rep. Klock

03:03:21 Rep. Heinert

03:03:29 Mr. Kane

03:03:59 Rep. Keane

03:04:25 Mr. Kane

03:06:25 Rep. Keane

03:06:35 Mr. Kane

03:06:49 Rep. Stahl

03:06:56 Mr. Kane

03:07:15 Rep. Reinhart

03:07:26 Mr. Kane

03:07:50 Rep. Mendenhall

03:07:57 Mr. Schweitzer

03:08:30 Rep. Arntzen

03:08:48 Rep. Stahl

03:09:15 Mr. Kane

Closing by Sponsor:

03:09:34 Rep. Heinert

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 668

03:10:40 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that HB 668 **DO PASS.**

03:10:57 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Stahl moved that HB 668 **BE AMENDED.**

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Windy

Boy voted by proxy.

EXHIBIT (buh39a06)

03:17:04 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that HB 668 **DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

03:17:13 Rep. Milburn

03:17:30 Bart Campbell

03:17:47 Rep. Keane

03:18:27 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Windy Boy voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 587

03:20:06 **Motion:** Rep. Milburn moved that HB 587 **DO PASS.**

03:20:12 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Milburn moved that HB 587 **BE AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Windy Boy voted by proxy.

EXHIBIT (buh39a07)

03:23:15 **Motion:** Rep. Milburn moved that HB 587 **DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

03:23:26 Rep. Keane

03:23:42 Rep. Van Dyk

03:23:53 Rep. Keane

03:24:48 Rep. Jones

03:26:49 Rep. Heinert

03:27:28 Rep. Reinhart

03:27:59 Mr. Campbell

03:30:53 Rep. Keane

03:31:01 **Vote:** Motion carried 12-4 by roll call vote with Reps. Augare, Furey, Keane, and Windy Boy voting no. Rep. Windy Boy voted by proxy.

Additional Exhibits:

Document pertaining to HB 587; Hearing date 02/16/07

EXHIBIT (buh39a08)

ADJOURNMENT

03:31:59 Adjournment: 11:35 P.M.

REP. SCOTT MENDENHALL, Chairman

NANCY KRAFT, Secretary

SM/nk

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([buh39aad.pdf](#))